



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

RECEIVED

March 5, 1997

Mr. Richard Smith
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20230

MAR 19 1997

ET 97-99

Dear Mr. Smith:

Federal Communications Commission

We have a common national interest to minimize potential interference to the Federal Government's receive earth station operations in the 17.8 to 20.2 GHz frequency band. The Government's use of this band is authorized under footnote US 334, and is required to satisfy specific radio frequency requirements involving the nation's security.

As you are aware, Larry Irving forwarded to the Commission his July 12, 1995, letter wherein we informed you that the 17.8 to 20.2 GHz band was required to satisfy a Federal Government requirement which involved national security interests. And as you are also aware from my January 7, 1997, letter we have determined that both existing and anticipated FCC licensees could cause interference problems to the Federal Government use of the band. Therefore, we offer the following approach for resolving these problems--

- i) Effective immediately, the Federal Government will withdraw its allocation to the radionavigation service in the bands from the 24.25 to 24.45 GHz and 25.05 to 25.25 GHz.
- ii) The FCC, with the issuance of an order, will terminate all licenses for the Digital Electronic Message Service (DEMS) that authorize use of the 18.82 to 18.92 GHz and 19.16 to 19.26 GHz bands for operations anywhere within the exclusion zones defined in Attachment A. The FCC will also issue an order with provisions that permit the issuance of replacement DEMS licenses for operating this service in the bands listed in i).
- iii) The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) uses the 24.25 to 24.65 GHz band for radiolocation services (ASDE-2 radar systems) that operate in the Washington, DC, and Newark, New Jersey areas. These two FAA radar systems are scheduled for retirement in January 1998 and January 2000, respectively. NTIA, FAA, FCC and its licensees will have to coordinate the introduction of DEMS services in these areas to assure compatible operations until the retirement of these two ASDE-2 radar systems.
- iv) The FCC will issue an order with provisions that will exclude any future FCC licensees from using the 17.8 to 20.2 GHz band for operations anywhere within the exclusion zones defined in Attachment A.
- v) The FCC will issue an order with provisions that require coordination with the Government before future FCC licensees will be authorized to use the 17.8 to 20.2 GHz band for operations anywhere within the coordination zones defined in Attachment A.

vi) The FCC will issue an order with provisions that will require future FCC licensees to coordinate with NASA to assure that their intersatellite service is not adversely affected.

We believe that the above defined approach is responsive to our combined interests and also satisfies the underlying national security requirements; therefore, we propose that you issue the appropriate orders in an expeditious manner to implement this approach. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Parlow', written over the printed name.

Richard Parlow
Associate Administrator
Office of Spectrum Management

Attachment A- Memorandum from the Department of the Air Force, dated 3/March/1997, signed by Nelson Pollack



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AF FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (HQ USAF)
4040 N. Fairfax, Suite 204
Arlington, VA 22203-1613

3 March 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR NTIA/OSM ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR, MR PARLOW

FROM: AFFMA/SCA

SUBJECT: 18 GHz Exclusion/Coordination Zones

Reference is made to 7 January 1997 NTIA letter to the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology. This letter requested certain actions be undertaken by the FCC to protect Government earth stations in the Denver, CO, and Washington, D.C. areas.

As a further refinement to the protection required by the earth stations, the Air Force requests that the following 18 GHz exclusion and coordination zones be established in the vicinity of each city:

Civil System	Exclusion Zone (Km)	Coordination Zone (Km)
DEMS	150 Km	(not required)
Low Power (Outdoor)	55 Km	(not required)
Low Power (Indoor)	20 Km	(not required)
CARS	50 Km (Note 1)	Note 2,3,4
Pt-Pt	20 Km	Notes 3,4

The above exclusion and coordination zones are with respect to the following center coordinates:

Washington, D.C.	38°48'00" N	76°52'00" W
Denver, CO	39°43'00" N	104°46'00" W

NELSON V. POLLACK, GM-15
Technical Director

Attachment:
Notes

cc:
OASD/C3I (Raiford)
HQDA SAIS-SM
NAVEMSCEN (Code 00)
AFSPC/SCMA
JSC/AF

ATTACHEMENT

NOTES

1. Except for a 5 Km radius around Morrision, CO (39°39'16" N, 105°10'57" W)
2. Including a 5 Km radius around Morrision, CO (39°43'00" N, 104°46'00" W)
3. For Washington, D.C.: 178 Km radius around 384800 N 0765200 W) and a box defined by the corners NE = 384000 N 0785000 W and SW = 381000 N 0792000 W)
4. For Denver, CO: Three boxes defined by the following corners:
 - Box 1: NE = 413000 N 1031000 W
SW = 383000 N 1063000 W
 - Box 2: NE = 383000 N 105000 W
SW = 373000 N 1055000 W
 - Box 3: NE = 400800 N 1070000 W
SW = 395600 N 1071500 W